



Faculty - Professor Festus Addo-Yobo



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Professor

Process Engineering

(868) 642 8888 ext. 32403

festus.addoyobo@utt.edu.tt



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Festus Addo-Yobo holds a B.Sc. from the University of Leeds and a Ph.D. from Cambridge University. He has held Research fellowships in Chemical Engineering Departments of Cambridge, Leeds and Bradford Universities. His research work in those

early years of his career was directly applicable to the Pharmaceutical and Chemical Defense industries and to solving important industry problems.

Very much a product of the 1970s, Festus cut his teeth working at the Factory floor on traditional non-white collar jobs (Metal casting in Armley Leeds) and also hands on monitoring of the emission of pollutants from municipal incinerators and the design of stack flow samplers for their measurement- areas which at the time would have been considered alien to the traditional Chemical Engineering.

Teaching in Wales and Reading made him more aware of the need to be empathetic to students with different academic backgrounds when delivering lectures.

Professionally his consulting experience has been much more impactful. His application of packed bed theory to modelling and analysis of the downstream purification of Cephlosporin-c at Ulverston, UK, made the process more efficient, and made more money for Glaxochem (now part of GlaxiSmithklineBeecham) to the extent that they could afford to shutdown other plants and still increase profits. Festus’s successful application of netback pricing analysis to the prefeasibility studies on the West African Gas Pipeline Project was instrumental in securing World Bank loans for the participating Governments and the consortium of companies (including: Chevron, BP, Nigeria National Petroleum Company and West Africa Gas Pipeline CO).

What he has learnt from leading various groups of people with different ethnic, cultural and social backgrounds: is that communication is vital to carrying the people with you and seeing through even big ideas, which are obviously beneficial. Well intended reform can sometimes be met with undeserving resistance unless you make them win-win.



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